

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05
CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02
FEAE-00 OMB-01 XMB-02 OPIC-03 /085 W
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O 171622Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 842

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, RO
SUBJECT: IMPORT RESTRAINTS ON SUITS

REF: STATE 304006

1. ECON COUNSELOR MET WITH MFT DIRECTOR DUMITRESCU AT HIS REQUEST
ON DEC. 17
TO DISCUSS ROMANIAN REACTION TO U.S. NOTE, COPY OF WHICH
DELIVERED TO MFT ON DEC. 16.

2. ON DPM PATAN'S INSTRUCTION, DUMITRESCU MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:
(A) GOR DOES NOT WANT CONFRONTATION WITH U.S. ON THIS SUBJECT.
(B) IN VIEW OF EARLIER ROMANIAN INDICATION OF PREPAREDNESS TO ACCEPT
RESTRAINTS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, AND USG AGREEMENT TO SECOND
ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS IN JANUARY GOR SURPRISED THAT U.S. PREPARED
IMPOSE RESTRAINTS ON DEC 22.
(C) ROMANIANS QUESTION U.S. USE OF ART. III OF MFA; GOR CONTINUES
TO FEEL THAT BASIS FOR CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE ART. IV. (NOTE:
DUMITRESCU ADDED THAT ONLY U.S. LIKES TO USE ART. III, OTHER
COUNTRIES, E.G. EC, MAKE RECOURSE TO ART. IV.
(D) GOR BELIEVES U.S. SHOULD GIVE ROMANIA PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT
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ACCORDED LDC'S UNDER ART. VI OF MFA.
(E) HOWEVER URGENT USG DEEMS PROBLEM, IMPOSITION OF RESTRAINTS IN
PERIOD OF LESS THAN 30 DAYS IS ONLY PERMITTED BY MFA IN CASE OF
"TOTALLY EXCEPTIONAL AND UNUSUAL" CIRCUMSTANCES, WHICH DEPT'S
NOTE DOES NOT SUBSTANTIATE.
(F) ROMANIA IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT SELF-RESTRAINT OF EXPORTS

OF CATEGORY 120 AND 237, AND EFFECTIVE ON OR RETROACTIVE TO JAN 1, 1977 AFTER HOLDING CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S.

(G) GOR PREPARED HAVE 2 TO 3 MEMBER DELEGATION (CHIOVEANU, SION AND POSSIBLY DINESCU) DEPART FOR WASHINGTON ON DEC 19 TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. ON DEC 20. HOWEVER, AS GOR AGREEABLE TO IMPOSING ITS OWN LIMITS ON EXPORTS ON CATEGORY 120 AND 237 RETROACTIVE TO JAN 1, DUMITRESCU WOULD PREFER CONSULTATIONS BE POSTPONED UNTIL LAST WEEK IN DECEMBER OR MID-JANUARY. IF THIS UNACCEPTABLE TO U.S., ROMANIA WILL SEND TEAM NOW TO MEET CONDITIONS OF U.S. NOTE.

3. SINCE GOR PREPARED SEND DELEGATION TO U.S. ON SUNDAY, DEC 19, IN ACCORDANCE OUR DEMAND THAT CONSULTATIONS BE HELD BY DEC 22, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S CONFIRMATION THAT IT IS PREPARED RECEIVE GOR TEAM ON DEC 20. IN EVENT THIS NOT FEASIBLE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S REACTION TO ROMANIAN PREFERENCE FOR TALKS DURING LAST WEEK IN DECEMBER OR MID-JANUARY.

4. DEPT. SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IF WE FIND IT NECESSARY ONCE WE HAVE RECEIVED PASSPORTS AND VISA APPLICATIONS TO SECURE INS APPROVAL TO ISSUE VISAS FOR DELEGATION, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, FOR ROMANIANS TO DEPART BEFORE TUESDAY, DEC 21. UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES, WHERE WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS WITH BUCHAREST DELEGATION CANNOT TAKE PLACE BY VIRTUE OF USG VISA REGULATIONS, WE ASSUME DEPT WOULD BE PREPARED TO EXTEND DEADLINE FOR IMPOSITION OF RESTRAINTS.

5. REQUEST RESPONSE BY NIACT IMMEDIATE CABLE AS TO DEPT'S PREFERENCE FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH GOR.

BARNES

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